

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 IO-12 OMB-01 EUR-25 PC-15 M-03 A-01 OPR-02

SY-07 OC-06 RSR-01 INRE-00 /178 W

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P 091024 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 694

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIOCITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ROME

RUSNAAAXUSCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0471

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ET SO PBOR MOPS

SUBJ: ETHIOPIAN- SOMALI BORDER INCIDENTS

REF: MOGADISCIO 0467

1. SUMMARY: SOMALIS TAKING RELAXED ATTITUDE TOQARD BANGOL INCIDENT. THEY DENY IT WAS INCURSION BUT STATE EMPEROR HAS BEEN NOTIFIED THAT SOMALI POLICE HAVE BEEN QITHDRAWN. END SUMMARY.

2. MY APPOINTMENT YESTERDAY WITH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ABDI WURSAMAWAS CANCELLED BECAUSE HE SAID HE HAD TO LEAVE UNEXPECTEDLY " FOR SEVERAL DAYS UP COUNTRY." THEIS MAY WELL

HAVE BEEN VISIT TO BORDER AT SIAD' S DIRECTION AFTER RECEIPT OF ETHIOPIAN PROTEST NOTE.

3. DURING MEETING APRIL 9 ON OTHER SUBJECT WITH FONOFF

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DIRECTOR GENERAL ABDURAHMAN (IN CONTINUED ABSENCE FONSEC), I CAISED BANGOL INCIDENT AND ETHIOPIAN CONCERNS. DG INITIALLY SAID THERE WAS NOTHING TO ETHIOPIAN CHARGE OF AN INCURSION, THAT THIS WAS QUESTION OF SOMALI POLICE WHO NORMALLY MOVED DURING DAY AND RETURNED TO THEIR POST AT NIGHT. HOWEVER, HE WAS NOT PRECISE ON DETAILS AND SAID EMPEROR HAD BEEN NOTIFIED THAT SOMALI POLICE HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN.

4. WHILE SHOWING NO ALARM ABOUT INCIDENT, ABDURAHMAN NEVER-THELESS REITERATED SOMALI CONCERN AT ETHIOPIAN TROOP BUILD- UP.
WHY HAD THEY MOVED " ALMOST ANOTHER DIVISION" TO SOMALI BORDER?

5. I EXPLAINED THAT ETHIOPIANS WERE GENERALLY CONCERNED ABOUT SOVIET MILITARY DELIVERIES HERE AND FACT THAT SOMALIA CONTINUED TO PRESS STRONGLY FOR " SOLUTION" OF OGADEN PROBLEM, WHICH BY SOMALI DEFINITION MEANT TRANSFER OF TERRITORY TO SOMALIA. DG REPLIED THAT SIAD HAD MADE CLEAR THAT SOMALIA WANTED PEACEFUL SOLUTION. MOREOVER, HE SAID US KNEW WELL WHAT EQUIPMENT SOMALIA HAD RECEIVED AND IT WAS NOT SIGNIFICANT. WHEN I MENTIONED ETHIOPIAN FEARS THAT SOMALIA HAD RECEIVED MIG 21'S, 19'S AND NEQ TANKS, HE SCOFFED AND SAID THEY CAME IN SAME CATEGORY AS RUMORS OF SAM MISSILES.

6. I MENTIONED THAT KENYANS ALSO WORRIED BY SOMALI MILITARY DELIVERIES AS WELL AS NORTH KOREAN- TRAINED GUERRILLAS. DG REPLIED KENYANS BEING EGGED ON BY ETHIOPIANS AND HE BELIEVED LITTLE REPORTS OF GUERRILLA TRAINING.

7. DG STRONGLY REITERATED THAT SOMALIA HAD NO INTENTION OF ATTACKING ETHIOPIA, WHOSE FORCES GREATLY OUTNUMBERED SOMALIA'S. HOWEVER, IF ETHIOPIANS ATTACKED, SOMALIS WOULD DEFEND ITS TERRITORY " TO LAST MAN."

8. DG SAID THAT PRESIDENT SIAD WANTED TO TALK TO ME ON OTHER MATTER; AND WOULD CALL ME IN SHORTLY. IF SO, I SHALL DISCUSS

SUBJECT WITH HIM.

LOORAM

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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ROME
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